

RESOLUTION NO. 11-01-2019

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP TO FACILITATE THE DEPLOYMENT OF AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE, HIGH-SPEED INTERNET SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY

WHEREAS, access to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband services, including for residential, commercial, and governmental use, provides enhanced educational possibilities, furthers workforce development opportunities, and stimulates economic development within the County; and

WHEREAS, the County's residents increasingly depend on their ability to access affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband services to improve their economic and financial position, to enhance their social networking capabilities, and to meet their basic consumer needs; and

WHEREAS, the County's businesses rely on their ability to access affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband services to effectively compete in a global economy; and

WHEREAS, the County's ability to timely deliver cost-effective governmental services to its residents, including emergency medical services and law enforcement protection, is enhanced by its ability to access affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband; and

WHEREAS, the County, along with its residents and businesses, desire expanded access to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband services to effectively deliver basic services to its residents, to more fully engage in commerce, and to better compete in a global economy; and

WHEREAS, the County's topography and population density has made it cost-prohibitive for private sector development of a reliable, affordable, high-speed broadband network throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, as a result, many areas of the County have limited or no access to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband services; and

WHEREAS, the County desires to develop and implement a plan to facilitate the provision of reliable, affordable, high-speed broadband services to residents and businesses throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, the County believes that cooperation with private-sector partners is necessary for the development of a county-wide broadband network that meets the needs of the County, its residents, and its businesses; and

WHEREAS, Hilbert Communications, LLC is an ISP with experience providing reliable, affordable, high-speed broadband services to underserved and unserved communities throughout Wisconsin for commercial, governmental, and emergency response purposes; and

WHEREAS, Hilbert Communications, LLC is able to and desires to assist the County with the development of a plan to facilitate the deployment of reliable, affordable, high-speed broadband services throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, the County believes that the economic activity and public benefits likely to occur as a result of the development and deployment of a reliable, affordable, high-speed broadband network throughout the County constitutes a valid public purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to work together for the mutual benefit of the County's residents, businesses, government, and emergency responders by jointly developing a plan to facilitate the provision of reliable, affordable, high-speed broadband services throughout the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Green County Board of Supervisors authorizes and directs the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, or his designee, to execute a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU"), attached as **Exhibit A**, with Hilbert Communications, LLC expressing the parties' desire and intent to develop a plan to construct, develop, and deploy high-speed internet infrastructure to facilitate the provision of affordable, reliable, high-speed internet services throughout the County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Green County Board of Supervisors authorizes and directs staff to immediately enter into negotiations with Hilbert Communications, LLC to develop a comprehensive plan, including all necessary agreements and other documentation, setting forth all relevant aspects necessary for the parties to jointly, or in partnership, construct, develop, and deploy high-speed internet infrastructure throughout the County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Green County Board of Supervisors authorizes and directs staff to immediately develop and prepare a complete Broadband Expansion Grant Application, including all necessary agreements and other documentation, in partnership with Hilbert Communications LLC, for joint submission to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin not later than December 19, 2019.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, all plans, applications, and Agreements referenced herein shall not become effective unless and until each has received approval by the Board of Supervisors in accordance with Green County's General Code of Ordinances and/or as otherwise required by law.

SIGNED: FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING COMMITTEE:

Jerry Guth, Chair

Harvey Mandel, Vice-chair

Steve Borowski

Arthur Carter

Kristi Leonard

FISCAL NOTE: Unkown at this time,
pending grant approval.

LEGAL NOTE: Approved as to form. BDB

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
) ss
COUNTY OF GREEN)

I, Michael J. Doyle, County Clerk in and for said County, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution 11-01-19, adopted by the Board of Supervisors on November 12, 2019.

Dated at Monroe, Wisconsin, this 12th day of November, 2019.

Michael J. Doyle
Green County Clerk